

Bill title: Pinnacles National Park Act

Bill number: [H.R. 3444](#)

Date introduced: July 31, 2009

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands. Hearing held on Nov. 17, 2009, before the House Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands.

Summary: This legislation would establish the Pinnacles National Park in San Benito County. The area is currently designated as a National Monument. National Monuments, smaller than National Parks, are centered around a specific resource and lack diversity. The Pinnacles region, at more than 26,000 acres and home to 32 species holding special federal or state status, is far more than rock formations.

Following introduction of the bill, Rep. Farr said: “Upgrading Pinnacles to a National Park makes sense for historic, natural and economic reasons,” said Rep. Farr. “This area is much more than rock formations. It’s a huge swatch of land with historical significance for the state, it provides an important refuge for the California condor and it has great potential for tourism revenue.”

Ken Burns and Dayton Duncan, producers of PBS' The National Parks: America's Best Idea, submitted a letter in support of the Pinnacles National Park Act, which was read during a subcommittee hearing of the bill. That letter is available [here](#).